Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Expedited Procedure

Examining Group: 1624

Nobel E. Jarrell

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Norikazu Ohtake, et al.

. Art Unit: Serial No. : 10/561,115 Case No.: BY0026 1624 Examiner

Filed: December 15, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

For

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir

In response to the Official action of January 7, 2009, made final, for which a response is permitted by April 7, 2009, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks in the hope that they will place the application in condition for allowance or at least in better condition for appeal. This response is being timely filed. Any additional fees associated with this Response may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755. Please amend this application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this response. Remarks begin on page 8 of this response.

05/08/2009 OK TO ENTER: /N.I./